## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046028 ORIGIN EA-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:FHMISCH:JCM APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. RICH EA/P - MR. CANNON (SUBS.)

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P R 222216Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
CINCPAC
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, KS, US

SUBJECT: MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER - PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: SEOUL 1413

1. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 22:

BEGIN TEXT:

QUESTION: WILL YOU COMMENT ON THE PROTEST AGAINST THE U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON KOREA WHICH HAS BEEN ISSUED BY KOREAN DISSIDENTS?

ANSWER: WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE TEXT OF AN OPEN LETTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM A NUMBER OF POLITICAL OPPOSITION ACTIVISTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, INCLUDING A NUMBER WHO HAVE ONLY RECENTLY BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON.

TO THE EXTENT THAT THE LETTER'S AUTHORS ADDRESS THE DPEARTMENT'S REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, WE STAND FIRMLY BEHIND THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS EARLIER THIS YEAR AS REPRESENTING OUR CAREFUL AND CONSIDERED JUDGMENT ON THESE MATTERS. BEYOND THAT WE DO NOT PLAN TO COMMENT.

(FYI: CHRISTOPHER'S ABA SPEECH MIGHT BE CITED, ON DIFFICULTY OF PREPARING REPORTS AND INEVITABLE DIFFERENCES).

END TEXT.

2. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED BY CORRESPONDENTS. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE046028
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FHMISCH:JCM
Enclosure: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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